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SAPC - 16898
Copy 3 of 8

3 June 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Director

THROUGH : Project Director of Administration

SUBJECT : Proposed Press Release for SAC Del Rio Operation
Scheduled 10 June 1957

1. Attached hereto is the revised SAC press release proposed for distribution upon the move of SAC [redacted] to Del Rio, Texas on 10 June 1957.

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2. In response to your request of 29 May 1957, this release has now been reduced from the previous seven paragraphs to its current form of 3 paragraphs. I recognize the apparent duplication which existed in previous releases and I trust this consolidation meets with your approval.

3. For your information SAC Headquarters has never been given copies of previous proposed releases, though they have been shown to them. I might note that they are agreeable to releasing only what is furnished them. They thoroughly understand this latest requirement of size reduction as being a joint recommendation of Mr. Dulles and Secretary Quarles.

4. I would recommend that if this release meets with your approval, it be forwarded to SAC so as to precede any movement of U-2 aircraft to Laughlin Air Force Base.

[redacted]
Project Cover Officer

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[redacted] (3 June 1957)

- 1 - Addressee
- 2 - Admin
- 3 - Dep Proj Dir /
- 4 - Ops
- 5 - Cover
- 6 - SO Reading
- 7 - SO (I Hdg)
- 8 - RI

USAF
review(s)
completed.

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PROPOSED SAC DEL RIO RELEASE

1. Col. Hubert Zemke, Commanding Officer 4080th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing (Light), announced today that his command has been designated to receive the newly procured Lockheed U-2 aircraft. These aircraft will be assigned to the 4028th and 4029th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadrons (Weather) and will be utilized to support the 3rd Weather Wing of the Air Weather Service.

2. The newly acquired U-2 aircraft has undergone considerable tests by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. Performance of this vehicle thus far has proven it a more economical airplane than tactical types despite the considerable maintenance costs due to operational peculiarities.

3. Laughlin Air Force Base has been chosen, in this instance, as it is more suitable for operational training and provides a more central location for research and weather activities being conducted in the western hemisphere. It is believed that with this increased capability the USAF/AMS can greatly improve its service to the many military operational units who depend upon accurate information during high altitude flight at current jet speeds.